

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA2004/001855

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC: G02B 6/38

According to the International Patent Classification (IPC)

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC: G02B 6/38, G02B 6/36 US Classification: 385/all

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base, and, where practicable, search terms used)

Delphion, Espacenet, Techsource (Canadian Database); search terms used: ferrule, optic*, connect*, (continued on extra sheet)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,121,456 A (ESSERT ET AL.) 9 June 1992 (09 - 06 - 1992) abstract; figures 1 to 8A; and column 2, line 46 to column 6, line 21	1 to 4
Y	US 5,307,431 A (MEDHADJI ET AL.) 26 April 1994 (26 - 04 - 1994) abstract; figures 1 to 11; column 2, lines 3 to 46; and column 4, line 23 to column 8, line 23	1 to 4
Y	EP 1 148 366 A2 (ANDREWS ET AL.) 24 October 2001 (24 - 10 - 2001) abstract; figures 1 to 4; and column 6, lines 5 to 35	1 to 4
Y	JP 2002 311293 A (SEISAKU ET AL.) 23 October 2002 (23 - 10 - 2002) abstract	1 to 4

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :	"I" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international-type search

22 December 2004 (22-12-2004)

Date of mailing of the international-type search report

02 March 2005 (02-03-2005)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA2004/001855

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,357,933 B1 (BRADLEY ET AL.) 19 March 2002 (19 - 03 - 2002) abstract; figures 1 to 4; column 4, lines 42 to 64; and claims 1 to 4 (cited in the application)	1
Y	US 5,768,455 A (KONIK) 16 June 1998 (16 - 06 - 1998) figure 1A; column 5, lines 39 to 44; and claims 1 to 11	1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/CA2004/001855

Patent Document Cited in Search Report	Publication Date	Patent Family Member(s)	Publication Date
US5121456 A	09-06-1992	CA2046564 A1	07-03-1992
		DE69123540D D1	23-01-1997
		DE69123540T T2	15-05-1997
		DE69133124D D1	07-11-2002
		DE69133124T T2	18-06-2003
		EP0479415 A2	08-04-1992
		EP0702254 A2	20-03-1996
		JP3061306B2 B2	10-07-2000
US5307431A	26-04-1994	EP0536072 A1	07-04-1993
		FR2682195 A1	09-04-1993
EP1148366 A2	24-10-2001	JP2001290050 A	19-10-2001
		US6318903 B1	20-11-2001
JP2002311293 A	23-10-2002	NONE	
US6357933 B1	19-03-2002	NONE	
US5768455 A	16-06-1998	NONE	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA2004/001855

Continuation Box B. Field Searched - search terms used:

cone*, conic, taper*, slot*, split*, slit*, mechanic*, splic*, plug* and cap*